

**Building
Contractors
Association
of New Jersey**

MONTHLY UPDATE

September 2011

New Members

BCANJ is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Associate Active

**Medina Glass Block
(dba Glass Block of America)**

Medina, OH

Associate Service

Mpengo LLC

Queensville, Ontario, Canada
(area office - Succasunna, NJ)

Seawolf Consultants LLC

Flemington, NJ

**Update: Northern NJ District
Council of Ironworkers**

As you know, the Northern New Jersey District Council of Ironworkers' agreement expired on June 30, 2011. A new agreement has not yet been reached; however, negotiations are ongoing. The union continues to work under the existing wage and fringe benefit schedule. We will keep you updated as talks progress.

Final Reminder: Annual Gala

Tickets and PAC sponsorships are still available for the BCANJ Annual Gala Dinner on Thursday, October 27, 2011, at The Palace at Somerset Park in Somerset. We encourage you to show your support by attending this important BCANJ event as we recognize our labor partners in the General Construction Trades for their sacrifices in helping contractors stay competitive during these challenging economic times. *Please contact BCANJ for further information or to register.*

Robert Polisano
President

James Prisco Jr.
Vice President

Eric Jensen
Secretary

Robert Gamba
Treasurer

Jack Kocsis Jr.
Chief Executive Officer

Darlene Regina
Executive Director

BCANJ Coffee Talk Program

The next program in the Coffee Talk Series, "New Jersey Schools Development Authority," featuring SDA CEO Marc Larkins, is scheduled for October 21, 2011, 9:15 - 10:45 a.m. at the BCANJ office in Edison. The program is offered at no charge, but space is limited and pre-registration is required. Call 732.225.2265 or e-mail akopin@bcanj.com for a registration form.

BCANJ to Host Port Authority Program

On October 25, 2011, BCANJ will host a program with leaders of the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey, including Deputy Executive Director Bill Baroni and Chief Engineer Peter Zipf, along with others. The program is free-of-charge, but you must register to attend, as space is limited. Please refer to Bulletin #92-11 for details and a registration form.

NJ Special School Election Results

As we announced in Bulletin #92-11, voters in the New Jersey School Construction Referendum on Tuesday, September 27, 2011, approved school construction projects for only two out of six projects in five districts, for a total of just over \$53.66 million. However, the total represents about 75% of the amount requested (\$71.2 million), with two big-ticket items approved in Gloucester County. Just over \$14.9 million is eligible for state-reimbursed aid. The last bond referendum this year is scheduled for December 13, 2011. For complete results, access the bulletin on the "Members Only" section of the BCANJ website at www.bcanj.com.

BCANJ Members Listed in ENR Top 100 Green Contractors

ENR published its annual list of the Top 100 green contractors in the September 15, 2011, issue. BCANJ members on the list are Turner Construction (#1), Gilbane Building Company (#2), Skanska USA (#8), Hunt Construction Group (#11) and Bovis Lend Lease (#14). We extend our congratulations to all.

Student Summer Work Program

This year, 12 summer interns successfully completed the Student Summer Work Program. In the next issue of the BUILDING CONTRACTOR magazine, we will include a special feature on the students' experiences.

AGC/A 2012 Scholarships

Applications for the AGC of America Education & Research Foundation's 2012 scholarships are available at <http://scholarship.agc.org>, or by calling the AGC/A Foundation at 703.837.5342. Deadline for application is November 1, 2011.

BCANJ Annual Meeting

The last membership meeting of the year is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at 5:30 p.m. at the Robert Meyner Reception Center, PNC Bank Arts Center, Holmdel. Look for more information in a future mailing.

National Labor News...

For information on key labor issues, please refer to the enclosed report.

COBRA Subsidy Ends

As we reported in Bulletin #87-11, the subsidies that allowed employees terminated during the recession to pay lower COBRA premiums came to an end on August 31, 2011. The bulletin also contained an FAQ and Fact Sheet from the US Department of Labor and can be accessed on the "Members Only" section of the BCANJ website.

Government Affairs...

American Jobs Act

As we told you in Bulletin #89-11, on September 8, 2011, President Obama proposed a \$447 billion plan to create jobs and boost the economy. The biggest slice of the proposed plan is an estimated \$175 billion in tax cuts to encourage corporate investment in business expansion, capital improvements, personnel and equipment. Much of the rest of the proposal concentrates on construction jobs, with \$50 billion slated for immediate road, rail and airport construction and another \$30 billion to be put toward modernizing 35,000 public schools across the country. The President also asked Congress to lower both employer and individual payroll tax rates to 3.1% next year, and sign off on corporate tax breaks for investment in new equipment. A week later, President Obama detailed his deficit-reduction plan to present funding streams that balance his aggressive jobs plan. Discussion on funding for the plan has been derailed by debate on disaster relief for states and the US government's overall funding challenges. BCANJ will monitor and track the plan's movement through Congress this fall.

NJ Senate Advances "Job-Creating" Bills

Senate Democrats and Republicans, committed to getting the state's economy moving again, voted on several pieces of legislation in September that have the potential to spur job creation and assist businesses in expanding in our State. The following bills received bipartisan support and have cleared the full Senate. S-3033 (Lesniak, Kyrillos), would establish the "Grow NJ Assistance Program," a tax credit incentive program designed to grow NJ-based companies through subsidies for both new and retained jobs. S-3052 (Whelan, Sarlo) would establish a business loan program in EDA allowing certain businesses to be eligible for low-interest rate loans of up to \$250,000 to expand their businesses in NJ. S-3054 (Sweeney) would expand certain corporation business tax credit programs to include the gross income tax, providing gross income taxpayers with the same incentives available to corporation business taxpayers for investment and hiring, particularly sole proprietors, partnerships, and limited liability companies. The Assembly will take up these initiatives during the lame-duck session this coming fall.

Federal 3% Withholding

A new federal law will require federal, state and local governments to withhold 3% from all payments for goods and services as a guard against tax evasion. The implementation date is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2012. The withholding percentage will be applied when a federal, state or local government has annual expenditures exceeding \$100 million. These aggregate expenditures are not limited to just construction contracts. President Obama's "American Jobs Act" pushes the implementation

date back through 2013. However, according to AGC of America, there are several bills making their way through Congress that would outright repeal the new tax. BCANJ has had constructive dialogue on this issue with various members of NJ's Congressional Delegation in support of AGC of America's efforts. The bill(s) will see action in Congress during the upcoming fall session.

Safety News...

Final Reminder: OSHA 502 Trainer Refresher Course

BCANJ will host the OSHA 502 "Trainer Refresher" Course on October 11-13, 2011, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Association Office, Edison. Individuals must be able to attend all three days. The OSHA 502 is for individuals who have taken the OSHA 500 and need to renew their certification. Cost is \$529 per person for BCANJ and affiliated association members. **For your convenience, we have enclosed a registration form.** Registrants must include a copy of their resume and OSHA 500 or 502 card.

OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety Course

As we told you in Bulletin #90-11, BCANJ will host an OSHA 30-Hour Construction Health & Safety Course November 1, 8, 15 & 22, 2011 (Tuesdays), at the Association Office in Edison. The course will cover OSHA policies, procedures and standards as well as construction safety and health principles. The cost is \$349 per person for BCANJ and affiliated association members, and includes a continental breakfast, lunch and course materials. **For your convenience, we have enclosed a registration form.**

Other Construction Safety Courses

In Bulletin #88-11, we sent you a schedule of safety courses available in September through the general construction trades. Access the bulletin online in the "Members Only" section at www.bcanj.com.

Associate Member

When visiting www.bcanj.com during the month of October, you will see our featured website advertiser: **Allied Fire & Safety Equipment Co., Inc.** Please visit www.bcanj.com to access the link to their site.

Resume on File

Accounting/Financial

Recent graduate of Ramapo College of New Jersey with Bachelor of Science in Accounting seeks challenging position with growth potential. Individual has interned as a financial assistant for a financial advising firm. Other experience includes quality control and as a licensed pharmacy technician. To review this resume, please contact the BCANJ office at 732.225.2265.

November Holidays

The following holidays in November are observed by the General Construction Trades:

Friday, November 11:

Veterans' Day

Thursday, November 25:

Thanksgiving Day

Please refer to the Contract Summary in your labor information binder for provisions regarding holidays.